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**Date:** 11/30/2016

**GAIN Report Number:** IN6147

## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### FSSAI Allows Imports of Medical and Therapeutic Foods

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

The Government of India's (GOI) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) will allow imports of specialty foods for special medical/therapeutic uses for a period of two years, or until FSSAI standards are established. A notification to this effect was posted in FSSAI's website on November 24, 2016.

## **General Information:**

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this report was retrieved from FSSAI's website <http://www.fssai.gov.in/>. The Office of Agricultural Affairs and/or the U.S. Government make no claim of accuracy or authenticity.

Based on the representations received from various organizations to allow the import of foods required by infants and children suffering from special medical conditions, FSSAI has agreed to allow for imports of these specialty foods. Currently, there are no standards that exist for therapeutic foods. FSSAI expects standards to be finalized within two years or earlier. Imported and domestic medical or therapeutic foods must meet the following criteria:

- a. The importing firm would submit to FSSAI well in advance, all the necessary documents related to the composition, label and claims for the product they intend to import. FSSAI after due examination, would allow the import of such foods on a case to case basis for a period of two years from the date of this Order or till their Standards are developed and notified, whichever is earlier. Once a particular composition, label & claims is permitted by FSSAI for import, future consignments strictly adhering to the requirements can be imported on the basis of this one time permission.
- b. The labels on these foods shall clearly mention the medical conditions for which they have to be used.
- c. The importer/manufacturer of such foods shall ensure that they are consumed only under supervision of health care professionals.

The full text of the [FSSAI Notification](#) is available on FSSAI's website: [www.fssai.gov.in/](http://www.fssai.gov.in/).